

7th January 2019

Dear Parents,

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award (DofE)

I am writing to you about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which your son/daughter started in Year 10 during the academic Year 2016-17. During this time they completed their assessed overnight expedition and should have been collating and recording evidence for the other three aspects of the their Bronze Award during Year 10 & 11 – *this includes taking up and recording a volunteering opportunity, being regularly involved in a physical activity/sport and developing practical and social skills through nurturing personal interests and talents*. The recording of these elements of the award are completed through the participants' online eDofE account. Unfortunately, following the withdrawal of Lancashire County Council's DofE Operating Authority licence, we as a school lost access to the online accounts and the North of England DofE now holds them. We have tried to regain access to sign off evidence but this has not been possible. From discussing this issue with the North West Office, we understand there are three ways in which your son/daughter can be accredited the award.

First, the participant or parents can contact the DofE directly to describe the evidence that they have collated with respect to the four areas previously mentioned. We have informed the DofE of the completed expedition dates and they have a copy of the assessors report already, so this aspect has been 'signed off'. The DofE North Office can be contacted on 01512282533.

Secondly, students can check their own e-DofE account and complete information if registered with their college. This is something they would need to discuss with the college directly.

Thirdly, through communication with the regional office and Tom Kelly, Operations Manager North of England (tom.kelly@dofe.org), we have agreed to host a support session on Thursday 17th January from 4.00pm-7.00pm when students can be supported by the DofE and Tarleton Academy to ensure they can complete the submission of evidence. The participants would need to be able to demonstrate and explain the required evidence to be accredited with the qualification. If this is something your son/daughter would want to undertake please contact Tarleton Academy by emailing m.cunniffe@tarletonacademy.org to arrange an approximate time slot on Thursday 17th January, 2019.

We hope that in collaboration with the North West DofE Office we can support those participants who believe they have completed the award to be accredited as soon as possible in the New Year. We would also like to thank those parents that have been proactive in contacting the DofE directly and have already secured the bronze award for their child.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Cunniffe

Head of School

Outstanding education at the heart of the community